

Application Number: 09/992,788
Response to Office Action of March 23, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An aesthetically acceptable toothbrush manufactured from preformed components comprising:
the toothbrush formed from at least two preformed thermoplastic toothbrush components, which are welded together by heating each respective component with hot air to form a toothbrush having acceptable peel resistant strength; said preformed toothbrush components being selected from the group consisting of at least a part of a head, a neck and a handle, and combinations thereof, said preformed toothbrush components having a different melt flow rate from each other and wherein at least one of said preformed toothbrush components is elastomeric.
2. (Original) The toothbrush of claim 1, wherein said weld has a break strength to withstand a peel force of at least 15 in-lbs. (1.69 joules).
3. (Original) The toothbrush of claim 1, wherein said weld has a break strength to withstand a peel force of at least 18 in-lbs. (2.03 joules).
4. (Original) The toothbrush of claim 1, wherein said weld has a break strength to withstand a peel force of at least 20 in-lbs. (2.26 joules).
- 5-6. (Canceled)
7. (Original) The toothbrush of claim 1, wherein three preformed components or parts thereof are welded together to form a toothbrush.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Original) An aesthetically acceptable toothbrush manufactured from preformed components comprising:

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the toothbrush formed from at least two preformed toothbrush components, which are welded together to form a toothbrush; said preformed toothbrush components being selected from the group consisting of at least a part of a head, a neck and a handle, and combinations thereof, wherein said components are of different thermoplastic materials having melt flow rates which differ by more than 5 g/10 min.

10. (Original) The toothbrush of claim 9, wherein at least one of said components is elastomeric.

11-25. (Cancelled)

26. (New) The toothbrush of claim 9, wherein said weld has a break strength to withstand a peel force of at least 15 in-lbs. (1.69 joules).

27. (New) The toothbrush of claim 9, wherein said weld has a break strength to withstand a peel force of at least 18 in-lbs. (2.03 joules).

28. (New) The toothbrush of claim 9, wherein said weld has a break strength to withstand a peel force of at least 20 in-lbs. (2.26 joules).

29. (New) The toothbrush of claim 9, wherein said at least one of said components is elastomeric.

30. (New) The toothbrush of claim 9, wherein a head and a handle are welded by heating each respective component with hot air.

31. (New) The toothbrush of claim 9, wherein three preformed components or parts thereof are welded together to form a toothbrush.

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32. (New) The toothbrush of claim 31, wherein at least one of said preformed components is elastomeric.